

We Will Meet Once Again

“In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.” – Jesus Christ

What is it that counts? Treasures, wealth, and big capitals that man has made and toil all his days? Morning and night, every moment and every glance the man endeavors and never loses any chance. ***“Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun.” (Ecclesiastes 2:11)*** What may count? More knowledge, more wisdom, more searching, and more study? ***“Meaningless! Meaningless!” says the teacher. “Everything is meaningless. Of making many books there is no end, and much study wears the body.” (Ecclesiastes 13:8,12b)*** ***“For with much wisdom comes much sorrow, the more knowledge the more grief. (Ecclesiastes 1:18)***

A real story may explain many things; it may reveal secrets and show hidden treasures. Denzil Theodora Diaz, a man born in Tanganew City, India on November 9, 1930. He grew up in a Christian family. He loved the Lord Jesus and he loved to recite the Lord’s Prayer from his heart. Having delight in uttering the prayer he said, ***“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven., Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.” (Matthew 6:9-13)***

Denzil Theodora loved to read the Bible and his favorite Scriptures was Psalm 23 and he was reciting it by heart like its meaning was imprinted in his heart, worthy to say that this Psalm were the meaningful words of God applicable to him as he really lived by it. ***“The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, and He restores my soul. He guides me in path of righteousness, for His name’s sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord, forever.” (Psalm 23)*** This Psalm was the description of Denzil’s life and the prescription that supported him day and night. The Lord was his guidance and his guard. The Lord was his provisions and his secure position.

Psalm 23 became his prophecy and the destiny for his life. ***“And I will dwell in the house of the Lord, forever.”*** Jesus died on the cross for our sins and He rose from the death giving assurance of eternal life to everyone who believes. ***“For everyone who calls in the name of the Lord will be saved. That if you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believes in your heart that God raised him from the dead and you will be saved.” (Romans 10:13,9)***

Denzil graduated as Marine Engineer. He served in the navy and traveled a lot all around the world. The Lord Jesus really was his Shepherd throughout his life’s journey. The Lord provided him Sharon who became a very faithful wife to him. God blessed them with two beautiful daughters, Yvonne and Helen. They were brought up by the love of the Lord and grew up with fear and reverence to the Lord. His wife, Sharon left home to be with the Lord in heaven after 30 years of successful marriage at his mid 60’s. It was a hard time for Denzil and for Helen and Yvonne – their mother had left for eternal glory. But the Lord Jesus, the Good Shepherd was with them in the valley of shadow of death. Denzil who was left alone by his life partner, was comforted by the Lord and found refuge in Him

In the last three years of his life, Denzil got a disease that affected his nervous system. He became sick and his mind and memory started to fall him a little by little. But while he was deteriorating still he was able to say; ***“The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not be in want.”*** He was taken care by his older daughter, Helen with her husband Sinclair and with three beautiful children, Kyle, Sevanna and Amanda. At this valley of shadow of death, while he was sick, the Good Shepherd, Jesus started to send Him God’s word through his people. Church members rendered him a regular visit at home, reading to him the Bible, explaining to him the word of God and praying with him and the whole family. Even when he admitted to the hospital the Lord is faithful, He was sending him people to comfort them and praying with them as a family.

The word of God that he was reciting made him alive. It revived the seed of salvation that he received at his young age. The word of God quickened him as true humble man of God. He obeyed the Lord’s ordinance of water baptism. He was immersed in water and raised up to eternal life. He regularly broke bread with the believers visiting him and he enjoyed the blessing of fellowship in the name of the Lord. His sorrow was turned into joy. One time in his sickness bed, his daughter saw him crying and exclaimed to him, ***“Why are you crying?”*** He replied, ***“These are the tears of joy, I am going to my Father’s house, where there will be no pain and no tears and mourning.”*** Helen said, ***“Daddy, please don’t speak like that.”*** But he replied ***“Now I can do nothing but once I got to my Father in heaven, I will get better.”*** And still he added, ***“You must let me go, and don’t worry, we will meet in heaven once again, my daughter.”***

On December 13, 2004, indeed Denzil’s family fare-welled him to heaven into Jesus hand; with tears mixed with joy for sooner or later they will meet him again. ***“Death is nothing at all. I have only slept away into the next room. Life means all that it every made. It is the same as it ever was. There is unbroken continually.”***

My dear and beloved: Even until we say farewell, what counts most is this: That Jesus knows those who are His and in His Father’s house we will meet once again in the eternal glory to live forever with God.

“Heavenly Father, I thank You from the depth of my heart for Your Son Jesus Christ who died on the cross to give me eternal life. Thank You because through Jesus, death has lost its victory and the grave has been denied. With Jesus there is unbroken continuity of life. I have a place in heaven where I will meet Him face to face – my Lord, my Saviour and my God Jesus Christ.” –Amen.